

DO NOT ENTER  
AFTER FINAL  
DR 1/19/02

#HSD/BU NE,  
01-08-02



RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 1647

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re the Application of:

HOTTEN et al.

Art Unit: 1647

Application No.: 09/386,450

Examiner: D. Romeo

Filed: August 31, 1999

Attorney Dkt. No.: 100564-09022

For: NEW GROWTH DIFFERENTIATION FACTOR OF THE TGF- $\beta$  FAMILY

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: December 31, 2001

Sir:

In reply to the outstanding Office Action dated July 31, 2001, having been duly extended from October 31, 2001 until December 31, 2001, by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 2-5, 7, 10, 14-15, 17-18, 20 and 23 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. *N.E. DR 1/19/02*

Please amend claims 6, 9, 11, 13, 16, 20-22 and 24-25 as follows:

6. (Twice Amended) The isolated protein as claimed in claim 11, wherein the protein has the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 2, the mature part thereof or the mature part combined with the propeptide.